

## Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00

LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 AGR-05 L-02

SS-15 NSC-05 H-01 /088 W  
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O R 061715Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6441

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 254

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EI, UN

SUBJECT: US-EC CONSULTATIONS

REF: STATE 25103

1. CHARG'E AND EMBOFF CALLED ON JOHN CAMPBELL, COUNSELOR  
AT DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, TO CONVEY DEPARTMENT'S  
APPRECIATION FOR IRISH PROMPTNESS IN INFORMING US OF  
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RESULTS OF JANUARY 23/24 POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING.

POLITICAL DIRECTOR DORR WOULD HAVE BEEN PRESENT BUT FOR A SUMMONS TO PRIMIN'S OFFICE. WE PASSED ON TO CAMPBELL FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF EC, USG VIEWS ON EC/ARAB DIALOGUE AND US/EC COORDINATION IN UN MATTERS. CAMPBELL WELCOMED THIS INPUT INTO US/EC DIALOGUE AND UNDERTOOK TO PASS OUR COMMENTS TO THE OTHER MEMBERS.

2. AFTER TAKING CAREFUL NOTE OF OUR POINTS (PARA 3 REFTEL) CAMPBELL SAID THAT HE WELL UNDERSTOOD USG CONCERNS THAT THE PROPOSED EC/ARAB DIALOGUE MIGHT GET INTO AREAS THAT COULD COMPLICATE USG EFFORTS TOWARD SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND CONSUMER COOPERATION ON ENERGY MATTERS. HE MADE NO SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THE IDEA OF STARTING THE EC/ARAB DIALOGUE AT THE EXPERTS' LEVEL REFERRED TO BY VON DER GABLENTZ (BONN'S 1430 NOFORN), BUT HE DID STATE THAT THE NINE VIEW THE DIALOGUE AT THIS STAGE AS A "PURLEY TECHNICAL FOUM" AND THEY HAVE NO DESIRE TO INJECT POLITICAL QUESTIONS. CAMPBELL ADDED THAT HE DID NOT SEE CONSUMER COOPERATION ON ENERGY MATTERS ENTERING INTO THE PICTURE. HE TWICE STATED THAT THE PROPOSED DIALOGUE "IS NOT SEEN AS HAVING A POLITICAL DIMENSION." WUNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CAMPBELL ASSERTED HIS CONFIDENCE THAT THE EC-NINE WOULD NOT COMPLICATE ANYTHING THE US MIGHT BE DOING IN MIDDLE-EAST POLITICAL OR IN ENERGY SPHERES. HAVING SAID THE FOREGOING, HE RECOGNIZED THAT THERE IS A "POLITICAL DIMENSION" IN ORGANIZING THE TALKS WITH THE ARABS AND ACKNOWLEDGED THE DIFFICULTY IN SETTING UP THE FIRST MEETING BECAUSE "THE ISSUE OF PLO REPRESENTATION WAS POLITICAL". HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THE THE NINE "WERE GROPING FOR A WAY TO GET OVER IT" AND GET THE FIRST EC/ARAB MEETING UNDERWAY.

3. SPECIAL EURO/ARAB COORDINATING COMMITTEE WITHIN EC WILL MEET FEBRUARY 25-27 IN ATTEMPT TO WORK OUT LIST OF SUBJECTS THAT MIGHT BE COVERED IN A FUTURE EC/ARAB MEETING. ONCE TOPICS ARE AGREED, THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE TO CONVEY SUGGESTED AGENDA TO ARABS. THUS, FIRST EC/ARAB MEETING IS NOT BY ANY MEANS IMMINENT. CAMPBELL CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT, BECAUSE OF TIMING, THERE MAY WELL BE LITTLE TO REPORT TO THE MINISTERS' MEETING FEB 13. THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE IS ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO DEVELOP IDEAS AS TO THE CONTEXT OF THE DIALOGUE.

4. TURNING TO US/EC COORDINATION IN UN MATTERS, CAMPBELL MADE CONFIDENTIAL

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CAREFUL NOTE OF POINTS MADE IN PARA 4 REFTEL. WE RE-EMPHASIZED USG AGREEMENT WITH IRISH OBSERVATION THAT THERE SHOULD BE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR COORDINATION ON UN MATTERS. CAMPBELL ASSENTED BUT ISSUED THE CAVEAT THAT "WITHIN THE EC THIS EXERCISE IS JUST GETTING OFF THE GROUND." HE NOTED THAT COMMUNITY COORDINATION IN BRUSSELS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS INVOLVING UN ISSUES WAS "A GOING CONCERN," BUT THE UN POLITICAL EXPERTS GROUP HAD YET TO ORGANIZE ITS WORK PROGRAM. THEY ARE TRYING TO ARRANGE LATER THIS MONTH A MEET-

ING OF THE UN EXPERTS GROUP (UNDER THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS) IN ORDER TO WORK OUT INTRA-COMMUNITY COORDINATION ON UN MATTERS. WE ASKED IF OUR POINTS ON US-EC COORDINATION ON UN MATTERS MIGHT USEFULLY BE PART OF THE AGENDA. CAMPBELL REPLIED THAT THE GROUP WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION US-EC COORDINATION BUT INDICATED THAT, SO FAR AS HE UNDERSTOOD, INTERNAL COORDINATION WOULD BE THE FIRST PRIORITY.

5. COMMENT: WE FOUND THE EXCHANGE TO BE VERY USEFUL. AFTER THE SUBSTANTIVE PRESENTATION FROM REFTEL, WE RETURNED TO DEPARTMENT'S APPRECIATION FOR GOI EFFORTS TO DATE TO KEEP US INFORMED. CAMPBELL SAID THAT FOLLOWING KISSINGER-FITZGERALD TALKS, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICERS WERE TOLD TO BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE. THE ONLY AREA WHERE WE DETECTED RELUCTANCE WAS WHEN WE INQUIRED WHAT THE CONSENSUS WAS WITHIN THE NINE ON PLO REPRESENTATION. CAMPBELL RETORTED THAT "THE ONLY WAY WE KNOW WHAT THE CONSENSUS IS, IS WHEN WE TAKE THE VOTE." THIS HARKS BACK TO EARLIER EXPRESSED GOI RELUCTANCE TO DISCUSS INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL POSITIONS IN INTERNAL EC DEBATES. THEY HAVE SPOKEN OF THE FINE LINE BETWEEN CONSULTING WITH THE US WHEN A SUBJECT IS INCHOATE AND WHEN IT IS "MATURE". IN GENERAL, WE THINK THE IRISH CONTINUE TO HAVE THE "WILL" TO CONSULT WITH US AND THAT THEY FEEL THAT THE US WILL BOLSTER THE PRESIDENCY BY USING IT AS A MECHANISM TO CONSULT WITH THEM.  
REND AHL

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